

16 January 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, USIB

SUBJECT : Secretariat Summary of USIB Agenda for 18 January

- Item 1 Approval of Minutes  
Draft is being circulated by the Exec Sec for USIB approval;  
Sponsor -
- Item 2 Watch Report  
Draft by Watch Committee to be circulated for Board approval;  
Sponsor -
- Item 3 SNIE on Soviet Interests and Activities in Arab States  
BNE draft coordinated with USIB Representatives for USIB approval; Sponsor - Mr. Abbot Smith

This SNIE was requested by Mr. Denney of State who felt that recent Soviet activities in Yemen, and the urgent decisions facing the U. S. with respect to arms aid to Jordan required an examination of Soviet activities and intentions in the Middle East since the June War.

Except for the Army reservation to the last sentence in paragraph 10 no serious substantive disagreements were encountered in coordinating this estimate. Army feels that the sentence exaggerates the importance of recent Soviet military activity in the Middle East, specifically the addition of landing ships to the Mediterranean fleet and the temporary use of Soviet personnel in combat in Yemen. Generally Army feels that the sentence is too alarming about future Soviet capabilities for distant military action. Army received no support for this view from any other USIB Representative.

Executive Secretary, USIB

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